GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3508
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2005
KARGIL CELEBRATION
Khanduri AVSM,Maj.Gen.(Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned: "Eye on Pak talks, Kargil celebrations to be low key" appearing in Indian Express dated July 22, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Government has issued any directions not to celebrate Kargil Vijay Diwas;

(c) if so, the justification therefor;

(d) whether the Government is aware of the adverse impact of such decision on the Armed Forces; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (e): After Kargil operations in 1999, the Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated on 26th July in 2000 and 2001 to commemorate the victory of Indian Forces. To avoid duplicity, a decision was taken in 2001 by Services Headquarters that only Vijay Diwas will be celebrated on 16th December every year. This has no adverse impact on the Armed Forces.